

TRIBUTE TO DON BYE

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Don Bye of Duluth, Minnesota.

Don has rendered long, distinguished, and dedicated service to the City of Duluth, Minnesota's 8th Congressional District, and all of Northern Minnesota. For more than a quarter century, he has served Northern Minnesota in numerous ways through his multifaceted political and community activism.

In particular, I wish to note that Don Bye has completed over a quarter century of service as Chairman of the 8th Congressional District's Democratic-Farmer-Labor (DEL) party and is now entering his 27th year in that capacity. That makes him the longest continuously serving Chairman of any of Minnesota's eight Congressional District DFL committees. I know I am joined by DLFers throughout our district in saying a heartfelt thanks to Don for his tireless, selfless service. Don Bye's greatest contribution has been to show people how to work together. He has brought together individuals with diverse and sometimes contentious positions through his dedication, hard work, and diplomacy. In large part because of his efforts, the 8th District DFL Party has a cohesiveness that is envied by other political groups in the State of Minnesota.

When redistricting was completed following the 1990 census, Don moved quickly to contact county unit chairs from the newly added sections of Minnesota's 8th Congressional District. He made sure that people from Sheburne and Benton counties felt welcome in their new Congressional District and included them early on in activities of the 8th District unit, including important leadership positions.

Don Bye has been a practicing attorney for more than 30 years. He assisted numerous clients in the areas of labor and employment law, public sector labor law, employment discrimination and personal injury law. He was a Member of the Minnesota State Board of Governors from 1989–1992.

Don Bye was instrumental in starting two programs that affected thousands of people in Duluth: the Share Food Drive and Kids Voting USA. In 1982, Don has an idea for a citywide effort to benefit those less fortunate, known as the Share Food Drive. Don recruited a staff person to organize the new program, and enlisted volunteers from the Duluth area. One weekend a year, boy scouts, union members, and other volunteers go door-to-door collecting food items and cash from Duluth residents. Local trucking companies donate the use of trucks, union members volunteer to drive the trucks, and church organizations offer the use of buildings to assist in the effort. The Share Food Drive generates 20,000 to 40,000 pounds of food a year for the Duluth Food Shelf.

Don Bye knows the future of our country lies in the hands of America's youth, which inspired him to initiate the Kids Voting USA project in Duluth—the first community in Minnesota to participate in Kids Voting USA. Don also served on the original organizing committee. Don and his fellow volunteers, by donating their time and money, made Duluth's Kids

Voting USA project a model for the nation. He brought people together and got them excited about the idea of giving school children the chance to participate in the electoral process on Election Day. Under this project, children can pick up a ballot at the polls and vote at their own booth at the same time that the parents are casting their official ballots. Local schools also participate by exposing students to the political process in their social studies and civics classes.

Six thousands school children in Duluth participated in Kids Voting USA in 1994, the first year of the program. By 1996, 31,000 children in ten communities in Northern Minnesota had joined in exercising the privilege enjoyed by millions of American citizens—casting a ballot for candidates for elective public office. Democracy will benefit in the years to come from young people inspired so early in their lives by this unique opportunity to participate in the election process.

I am proud and honored to share with my colleagues this brief, but deserved tribute to Don Bye, who has given so much of himself to enrich the lives of others and to serve his community.

HONORING COSMOPOLITAN CLUB
OF ELGIN'S DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Susan Rakow, the recipient of this year's Cosmopolitan Club of Elgin's Distinguished Service Award.

The Award is sponsored by the Cosmopolitan Club of the City of Elgin, Illinois, and Ms. Rakow is truly worthy of this honor. She has spent countless hours serving the community of Elgin in a variety of roles, and her contributions have been many.

Honored by the Altrusa International Club of Elgin with its Woman of the Year Award in 1997, and by the YWCA with its Marjorie Leonard Community Service Award in 1988, Ms. Rakow has served on the boards of the Jayne Shover Easter Seal Center, the Elgin Symphony, and the Sherman Hospital Auxiliary. She has also been active with Elgin U-46 public schools, serving both as a substitute teacher and as a member of the Instructional Council, has served as President of the Elgin Enrichment Series for several years and has been active in her local church.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Cosmopolitan Club of Elgin, Illinois in my district on their selection, and urge you and my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Susan Rakow for her years of service to her community and for her selection as this year's recipient of the Cosmopolitan Club of Elgin's Distinguished Service Award.

TRIBUTE TO HUBERT "DUDER" DUDERSTADT

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Hubert "Duder" Duderstadt.

Duder was a child immigrant from Germany. He came to this country with almost nothing and was a classic example of the success immigrants represent to this nation and what they have added to the culture we all enjoy today.

Duder was an example of what hard work and clean living will do.

Married to the same woman, Alberta, for 56 years, raising three successful children and achieving ownership of his own farm were measures of such success.

He clearly fulfilled the Will Rogers comment "I never met a man I didn't like," and it was always a pleasure to run into Duder. He was an accomplished farmer and wine maker and greatly appreciated by the community.

Always ready to do his part for the community, civic club, school, church, or profession, he never failed to pitch in.

He demonstrated by example what it means to be a Christian, good citizen, successful farmer, husband, and father.

He will be remembered, as we say in Gillett, Arkansas, as "a good man."

A TRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY COALITION PROJECT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and dedication of a group of outstanding teachers, staff, and other individuals to the students of San Bernardino County, California. On May 12th, the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools will honor some of the finest teachers in California at a Celebration of Excellence, a dinner and recognition program honoring the work of the Community Coalition project.

The Community Coalition is a countywide partnership project established to respond to the needs of public education through collaborative partnerships. As a result of this effort, successful programs have been put in place for San Bernardino County students in the areas of literacy, technology, school safety and career preparation. Clearly, the success of this project is tied directly to the teachers, staff and other partners who have worked diligently on this effort within the last three years.

The teachers who will be honored for their work with early literacy include Diane Harlan, Celeste Danjou, Dawn Fletcher, Sue Rhoades, Mary Gee, Terry Rogers, Audrey Howard, Tine Pelletier, Donna Libutti, Luanne Rhodes, Patty Dipaolo, Audrey Folden, Helen Rockett, Hester Turpin, Ava Gonick, Susan Birrell, Vickie Holman, Aileen Massey, Liz Fragua, Cathy Richardson, Joan Carey, Sue Cornell, Lynne Merryfield, Arlene Mistretta, Janie Piereson, Darwin Ruhle, Iris Tramp, Denie Cates-

Darnell, Caroleen Cosand, Jean Fenn, Carol Besser, Londa Carter, Denise Dugger, Cynthia Freymueller, Rachael Emery, Judy Lowrie, Marge Ruffalo, Laura Chapman, Luis Ibarra, Chris Richards, and Melody Davidsmeier.

Being recognized for their work in technology education are Jim Roller, Steve Bailey, Cindy Robinson, Ruthetta Brandt, Leandra Pearson, Kathy Gilbert, Jim Evans, Noelle Kreider, Alexis Carlson, John Patten, Bob Watson, and Linda Jungwirth. Those praised for their work on the focus on the future include Judith Pratt, Michelle Beutler, Dr. Bill Clark, Carrie Childress, Jeff Drozd, Patricia Merriam, Skip Brown, Laura Brundige, Jerry Bennett, Geri Kubanek-York, Jere Lloyd, Leslie Rodden, and Pam Stockard.

In addition, the following individuals will be recognized for their work with school safety: Norma Ashworth, Robert Martinez, David Mann, Beth Henry, Sally Foster, Marc Divine, Cathy Magana, Tim Kellegan, Tina Maeda, Jimmie Jimenez, Rich Laabs, Michael Vance, Debbie Fairfax, and Joe Kaempher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and our colleagues in recognizing the fine work of these individuals. Barry Pulliam, the County Superintendent of Schools is also worthy of praise for his outstanding leadership on the Community Coalition project. Efforts to educate our students and prepare them for the future are certainly worthy of our recognition and it is only fitting that the House pay tribute to these fine citizens today.

REMEMBERING REV. CLAUDE
HEITHAUS—"A CIVIL RIGHTS
TRAILBLAZER"

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker. Trailblazers are people who take chances and stand up for what's right, even when the status quo tells them the time is "not right". Trailblazers change the course of history, as Rev. Claude Heithaus did at Saint Louis University on a day in February 1944 when he delivered a sermon that led to integration in higher education in the city of St. Louis. As a proud alumnus of Saint Louis University and beneficiary of Rev. Heithaus' courageous actions, I commend to our colleagues the April 14, 1998 St. Louis Post Dispatch article, titled "Priest led the fight for university integration", which tells of the great sacrifice Rev. Heithaus made for the benefit of racial harmony. It is my hope that our colleagues in the struggle for racial equality and justice will find strength in this story.

PRIEST LED FIGHT FOR UNIVERSITY
INTEGRATION
(By Paul Shore)

St. Louis is rich in history, and we honor those who have contributed to its history in a number of ways: by naming parks, streets, hospitals and schools after them, or by keeping their memory alive by dedicating a civic project or program to them. Yet an important figure in the history of our city continues to go largely unacknowledged. His name was Claude Heithaus, and this spring marks the 100th anniversary of his birth.

Before Brown vs. the Board of Education had made its way to the Supreme Court in

1954, before the Archdiocese of St. Louis had integrated its schools, when St. Louis was an entirely segregated city, the Rev. Claude Heithaus, a Jesuit priest, took it upon himself to preach a sermon in the St. Frances Xavier (College) Church of St. Louis University, where he was a faculty member. In this sermon, which he delivered on the morning of Feb. 11, 1944, he called upon his listeners to repudiate racism and welcome people of color to the university. His words were uncompromising as he called upon the community to face its prejudice and hypocrisy:

"Do you want us to slam our doors in the face of Catholics, because their complexion happens to be brown or black? It (the claim that white students would refuse to attend classes with people of color) is a lie. I see that you repudiate it with indignation. You scorn it all the more because some of the very people who disseminate this lie have themselves sent their sons to Harvard and Yale, where they were glad to sit in the same classrooms with Negroes."

Heithaus' call to justice, which he couched in religious as well as moral terms, did not go unnoticed. Within the year, St. Louis University became the first institution of higher learning in a former slave state to admit African-Americans, and the city of St. Louis thereby became the scene of one of the most important breakthroughs in racial integration.

Heithaus soon departed from St. Louis. Because he had preached the sermon without the permission or support of his Jesuit superior and had continued to call attention to the problems of racism, he was banished, first to Kansas and then to Milwaukee.

Late in life he was allowed to return to the St. Louis area, where he lived quietly, never speaking publicly again on the topic of race relations. He died in 1976.

In the story of Heithaus' courage and determination there is much that St. Louis can be proud of. He risked—and lost—a great deal in order to further a process of acceptance, toleration and integration that remains unfinished in our community.

Although the first part of his story is fairly well known, the price he paid is less well known, and neither the university nor the community has ever formally recognized his accomplishments and sacrifices.

After his speech and his subsequent refusal to drop the issue of race relations, his career as a teacher was severely curtailed. A valuable collection of antiquities that he had acquired on his travels was lost or destroyed. His work as a trainer of young journalists (a quarter century earlier he had founded St. Louis University's University News) came to an end as well.

Even after the policies that Heithaus had called for became an accepted reality, he was never publicly thanked or even acknowledged by this community for his role in their realization, although the Father General of the Jesuits and the French government eventually recognized his accomplishments.

While much of the responsibility for this acknowledgement lies with the school where I work, St. Louis University, some of it ultimately lies with the community that also benefited from his vision and persistence. His commitment and his ideals should not be forgotten.

I call upon St. Louis University to mark the hundredth anniversary of Claude Heithaus' birth with some gesture worthy of his beliefs. I also call upon the greater St. Louis community to reflect on the actions of someone, who, when it was still politically incorrect, sought to widen educational opportunities for people of color. Surely there is a place in our city for some remembrance of him, a way to call attention to his ideals.

Heithaus is of course not the only unsung hero of St. Louis history. In the past 200

years, many men and women in this community have stood for worthy but unpopular causes and paid high prices for their beliefs. We should give each one recognition, not only out of respect for what they did, but also for what their lives can offer all of us as models of courage and vision. And by honoring Claude Heithaus, we would be making a very good start.

IN HONOR OF MISSION SAN JOSE
ROTARY CLUB FOR ITS 15 YEARS
OF SERVICE TO THE 13TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Mission San Jose Rotary Club for its extensive contributions to the quality of life in the Fremont community.

Over the last fifteen years, Mission San Jose Rotary has been actively involved in the community through more than 45 projects benefiting the Mission San Jose, Serra Center, Ardenwood Park, Fremont Senior Center, Mission San Jose Museum, and many other worthy recipients.

In addition, in 1986 Mission San Jose Rotary became one of the first clubs to champion the admission of women members, well before Rotary International recognized full participation by females. The club has sponsored two new Rotary clubs, sponsored four foreign exchange students, and counts more than 60% Paul Harris Fellows among its members. Mission San Jose Rotary has also contributed substantially to the Polio Plus Campaign and the Mission San Jose restoration.

I also commend Mission San Jose Rotary for having prepared and served many thousands of meals at the Centerville Free Dining Room, and for their internationally acclaimed chili and famous linguica burgers, which have raised nearly \$300,000 for charity.

Throughout its existence, Mission San Jose Rotary has been acclaimed many times for its excellent service. On May 1, 1998, the Mission San Jose Rotary Club will celebrate the 15th Anniversary of its founding, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the dedicated efforts that have produced so many civic achievements. Congratulations, and I look forward to another fifteen years of exceptional service.

IN HONOR OF LT. COL. MICHAEL
PRUSAK

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lt. Col. Michael Prusak, Director of Logistics for the Sacramento Air Logistics Center, McClellan Air Force Base, California. He is a Command Navigator, with more than 2,500 hours in the FB-111 and the T-43 aircraft. Lieutenant Colonel Prusak will be retiring on 1 August 1998, after a distinguished career highlighted by many challenging assignments.